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ServeOhio Funds 12 Statewide Service Projects in Honor of ServeOhio Day

These grants support more than 500 volunteers engaging in local community service projects across eleven Ohio cities

COLUMBUS, OH – ServeOhio, the Governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, announces grant awards to support 12 local ServeOhio Day projects taking place on or around June 25. ServeOhio Day exists to encourage and promote hands-on volunteer engagement while school is out for the summer. The grants ServeOhio is providing will fund service projects in eleven Ohio cities led by more than 500 volunteers.

“We’re excited to support statewide service projects in honor ServeOhio Day, which intentionally takes place on or near the summer solstice when there is the longest period of daylight in an effort to maximize participation,” said William Hall, executive director for ServeOhio. “Each year, I continue to be impressed with Ohioans’ dedication to and passion for service and bettering their communities – from building new community gardens to cleaning up local schools and parks in low-income areas.”

ServeOhio awards nearly \$15,000 in grants to support these projects with help from their 2021-2022 partner, American Electric Power Foundation. This year’s recipients include:

- **Columbiana County Aktion Club, East Palestine** – 20 volunteers will add 5 benches to the East Palestine Community Sensory Garden. The benches will increase the garden’s accessibility. Volunteers will also assist in maintaining the garden by weeding and watering plants.
- **Community Health Improvement Associates, Marietta** – 20 volunteers will build raised garden beds at a senior center and recovery house to help supply healthy food to low-income individuals.
- **Franklin Local Schools, Duncan Falls** – 50 students and community members will provide trash pick up and yard cleaning in their community.
- **Gorman Heritage Farm, Evendale** – 30 volunteers will tear down a dilapidated play area and replace it with a naturalistic playscape.
- **Humility of Mary Housing, Inc., Cuyahoga Falls** – 6 volunteers will build picnic tables for Opportunity House, who provides housing to disabled, homeless young men. The tables will serve as a place for outdoor programming for residents.
- **Inspiring Minds, Warren** – 100 volunteers will provide maintenance to and building a new fence for the community garden.
- **Ohio Valley Youth Network, Steubenville** – 75 volunteers will provide maintenance and beautifications to several community gardens.

- **Oregon Historic District Society, *Dayton*** – At least 10 volunteers will participate in the clean up of a pedestrian walkway and bridge. Volunteers will also be able to participate in the painting of a mural in the area to deter vandalism, graffiti, and litter.
- **Reaching the Nations International, *Columbus*** – 25 volunteers will create a safe, green space for youth by removing concrete and trash, mowing, and adding a fence.
- **SkillsUSA Pickaway-Ross Career & Technology Center, *Chillicothe*** – 25 volunteers will plant additional tree, plants, and vegetables to the Veterans Healing Garden.
- **The Brilliance School, *Garfield Heights*** – 70 children and youth will pack hygiene kits for a local homeless shelter.
- **The Westwood Right Incorporation, *Dayton*** – 75 volunteers will remove trash and illegal dumping from vacant lots then beautify the spaces with flowers, trees, and more.

Volunteers interested in serving in their community for ServeOhio Day or at any time throughout the year can visit [Get Connected](#), ServeOhio's statewide volunteer engagement platform.

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About ServeOhio

ServeOhio, Ohio's Governor-appointed commission on service and volunteerism, strengthens Ohio communities through AmeriCorps and volunteer engagement. Through programs and initiatives funded and supported by ServeOhio, thousands of Ohioans of all ages engage in and are recognized for their service. Interested participants may learn more about ServeOhio at www.serveohio.org, or on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).